



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Belleville Moose Lodge to dissolve due to COVID

By Rosemary K. Otzman
 Independent Editor

The 400 members of the Belleville Moose Lodge #934, Chapter #1135, have been called to a special meeting at 6:30 p.m., May 5, at the Lodge at the corner of Sumpter and Harris roads in Sumpter Township to voluntarily dissolve and forfeit their club's charter.

A letter sent out to the approximate 250 male members of the Lodge and the 150 members of the Women of the Moose on April 22 states that COVID-19 has kept the Lodge closed for essentially 13 months.

"The lodge has been deprived of over \$100,000 in potential revenue due to closure. In addition, the State of Michigan has closed poker rooms indefinitely which deprives the Lodge of an additional \$20,000 to \$30,000 in revenue," the letter states.

"In any event, with little money left in the bank, very little money on the horizon and bills beginning to be past due, the Board of Officers have called a Special Meeting for a vote to dissolve the Lodge and surrender our charter," the letter said.

The letter also included Moose General Law 27.1, which states: *Sec. 27.1 – Requirements – A Lodge may voluntarily dissolve by complying with the following requirements: 1. Prepare a Notice of Special Meeting and submit to the Chief Compliance Officer for approval. 2. At least seven (7) days in advance of the special meeting, send by first class mail a "Notice of Special Meeting" informing each active member of the Lodge that the purpose of the meeting is to vote to dissolve and forfeit the charter. 3. Submit a properly completed "Resolution to Dissolve and Forfeit Charter" to the Chief Compliance Officer for approvals. 4. A Lodge can voluntarily dissolve by a majority vote of*

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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education President Amy Pearce and Assistant Band Director Michael Campbell admire a sample of the 375 new Belleville High School Marching Band uniforms ordered by the board at its April 12 in-person meeting. (See letter on page 5.)

Belleville DDA considers Wednesday food trucks, live bands

By Rosemary K. Otzman
 Independent Editor

How about adding a first-Wednesday-of-the-month food truck on Fourth Street in front of the library, along with a live band from June through September in the city of Belleville?

This was the proposal from Belleville Councilman Kenneth Voigt to the Belleville

Downtown Development Authority at its April 21 meeting via zoom.

Councilman Voigt was representing the Belleville Area Council for the Arts. He asked for \$3,000 to pay for the bands. The food trucks would come without charge.

DDA vice chairman Jason Mida said he didn't want this to be perceived or real damage to the city's restaurants.

DDA treasurer Sabrina Richardson-Williams said she didn't want to see the food trucks in front of the restaurants.

Voigt said the plan was to put this on Fourth Street in front of the library.

DDA member Jennifer Winter of Egan's Pub said because of the DORA (Designated

Outdoor Refreshment Area), people could also get a drink at the restaurants.

Williams asked if they had talked to the library about this and Voigt said they hadn't.

"We'd have to go to council," said DDA chairperson Alicia McGovern, referring to the road closure that would be necessary.

Voigt said he could book the music and he has BACA's two portables stages. He said he could put up a stage for the band.

"Wouldn't hurt to have more fun in our downtown," Mida said.

Voigt said they could try it this year as an experiment and see how it goes. Then

(continued on page 3)

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Moose

(continued from page 1)

members present.

"We're out of time, out of money and COVID is not going to end any time soon," said Robert Coutts of Van Buren Township, Lodge administrator, on Saturday afternoon.

"It's COVID and its very unfortunate what it's done to us," he said.

Coutts said in the 1980s and 1990s, there were 3,000 members in the Belleville Moose. That's when Rawsonville Ford and Hydromatic were going full blast, he said.

When the Lodge had money problems in 2013, it sold its 3.98-acre property on the lake at 831 E. Huron River Dr. in Van Buren Township to the BYC, a private men's club, for \$251,000.

Then it bought the former PNA Hall at 45476 Harris Rd. on a land contract from Sumpter Township for \$175,000.

Coutts said the land contract is with Moose International and Sumpter Township is the vendor.

He said Moose International can sell the property or do nothing and it would go back to Sumpter Township. He said there are six acres there worth from \$350,000 to \$400,000.

In an April 10, 2014 story in the *Independent*, Coutts said they had 2,200 members in 2001 and after the turndown of the economy and many members lost jobs and lost homes, the membership dropped. Then when the Lodge was closed for a year during the sale of its lakeside property and the move to Sumpter, the membership dropped even more, to 500.

Coutts said when he started as administrator in 2010 the Moose was going through some hard times with available funds not being dispersed wisely. The IRS and DTE were not being paid and locks were put on the Lodge door several times for non-payment.

"Now, we're healthy. No debt at all. Our future is very bright here," Coutts said in 2014 when they were settling into their Sumpter location.

Then came COVID.

Perennial Plant Swap Saturday, May 1, 12-1 pm Belleville District Library Parking Lot

Divide and conquer that tired or overgrown perennial bed with the help of this fun event! Bring your healthy, extra perennials to swap with your neighbors for something new. Coordinated by the Belleville Area Garden Club.

Hilary Savage, Assistant Director
Belleville Area District Library

Belleville DDA

(continued from page 1)

expand it next year.

DDA member Valerie Kelley-Bonner said it would be good to change the genre of the music each month and Voigt said when they scheduled the music for Music Lakeside they vary the genre each week.

"We could pass it contingent on the council," chairperson McGovern said and Voigt replied, "I know someone on the council." Voigt is a councilman.

Winter made a motion, seconded by Bonner, to approve, contingent on the city council, the food truck and band on the first Wednesdays of the month at a cost not to exceed \$3,000.

DDA secretary Denise Baker asked about promotion costs. DDA coordinator Carol Thompson said the DDA budget has a line item for promotion.

The motion was amended to read that the band and marketing costs would be determined, and then passed unanimously.

Acting City Manager/Police Chief Dave Robinson said there are special event forms to fill out.

"What you get from the city council will depend on what happens with COVID," Manager/Chief Robinson said. "A lot of cities are nixing everything until August. ... All has to be COVID-compliant."

Robinson said someone would have to be in charge of the band placement and other details.

Voigt said the agreement he has with bands has a contingency clause that he used with COVID cancellations last year.

Voigt said he could volunteer the Music Lakeside stage crew for the event and McGovern and Bonner volunteered to help.

"We'll get a complete lineup and finalization at the next DDA meeting," McGovern said.

In other business at the one-hour-and-20-minute meeting on April 21, the DDA:

- Heard Thompson announce that the Fourth Street Place upgrades are almost done. She said the trees have been installed and the benches are in boxes and have to be assembled. Some concrete has to be finished;

- Heard Thompson report on the two estimates she got for café lighting on the Fourth Street Square and voted to take the quote of M&J Outdoor Lighting Enhancement at a cost up to \$2,000, which approves "gently used" free lights for the trees. The other proposal would cost about \$1,375 with no free lights;

- Heard treasurer Williams announce the committee proposed \$2,000 each in Community Event Funding for Lake Fest, Central Business Community, Belleville Area Council for the Arts, and the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce, contingent upon the events named being held. The

DDA unanimously approved the grants and voted again to change the rules for application. The grants now have a January deadline to apply, instead of March, and others wishing last-minute grants must apply by the first of the month so the application can be considered at the DDA's meeting on the third Wednesday;

- Discussed a subcommittee proposal to have the fire department hose down the sidewalks and then have the street sweeper come to clean it all up for a downtown spring cleanup effort. After discussion, Manager/Chief Robinson said he would call the fire chief and talk to him about it;

- Discussed the county's recent work on the Belleville Bridge, deciding to keep watch on it to see what they do. If work needs to be done on the railings or decorative parts of the bridge, the DDA will keep tabs on that;

- Discussed banner programs approved by the city for high school graduates and veterans, and what other banners could be up. Thompson explained the DDA has seasonal banners that are changed quarterly, with hanging baskets and American flags. She said last year the DPW didn't get good instruction on what to do when the veteran banners were down and didn't do anything. McGovern said the DDA needs a schedule of who's doing this and that on the poles and she said she talked to Robinson about that;

- Heard McGovern say in studying the

Potential Projects list and the Follow-Up List, she thinks the lists can be merged. Robinson said the follow-up lists for the DDA and the city council are similar and he doesn't like the city follow-up list. He said he will work with McGovern for a new template. He advised the DDA that the council has asked him to continue as city manager and chief. He said McGovern has agreed to help him find an assistant administrator that can be part of the DDA and work in economic development;

- Heard Thompson say it has been determined that the DPW water truck can remain in service and could be fixed without great cost. "We will keep going with what we have," Thompson said of the truck. There had been a proposal to buy a used truck for the plant-watering truck; and

- Heard Robinson say there is a new kind of look in the city's administration and it's all about service. He said with the different stimulus funds from the federal government there is the opportunity to do some things and he welcomes any input. He also noted in the near future, "I have to put my emergency manager hat on" and make some decisions that could "make me the bad guy... I hope I have your support." He spoke of the COVID rules from the state that he cannot ignore. He had set a May 25 date to consider whether Belleville Lake Fest can be held under the state rules at the time.

Clean up in the snow



Members of the Belleville Rotary Club, David C. Brown Funeral Home, Higgerson & Neal Funeral Home, and several local community volunteers braved the unexpected wintery-mix of spring-time weather and picked up 25 bags of refuse, leaves, and other yard waste (approximately 750 pounds) at the city's Hillside Cemetery on the evening of April 19. Earlier in the day on April 19 a group of Rotarians and friends also cleared storm drain blockages on Potter Drive and Edgemont Avenue in Belleville.

OPINIONS

Editorial

Moose Lodge will be missed as friend to our community

On May 5, the members of the Belleville Moose Lodge are expected to vote to dissolve their charter. This is a sad day in the community.

The Moose was organized in Belleville on Nov. 26, 1945 and would have celebrated its 75th anniversary last November. But, COVID-19 got in the way, shutting down the meeting place and ultimately the fraternal organization.

The Moose first built on the property at 460 E. Huron River Dr. in the city of Belleville, now the home of David C. Brown Funeral Home. David Brown said he bought the site from the Moose in 1981 and the Moose moved down the street to 831 E. Huron River Dr. on the lake.

That property was bought from the Moose by the BYC private men's club in 2013, after the Moose had a loss in members due to the economy and also had some financial woes of its own. It took some time to find a place to settle and the reluctant Sumpter Township Board of Trustees finally agreed to sell the former PNA Hall to them on a land contract.

The Moose Lodge now is at the corner of Sumpter and Harris roads and that's where members will meet to close the story on the group that has benefitted the community for years. We find stories in our files about the many, many benefits held by the Moose to help the VBT Dive Team, Boy Scout groups, soldiers in action, etc. We will miss the Moose.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

Mary Fassett was in her 90s when she became the inspiration for Belleville's Bridge Walk. Mary was the mother of Belleville Mayor Dennis Fassett, who faced recall twice in the city, with the second recall election successful. Mayor Fassett died April 8.

He served from 1995 to 1998. He instituted the Bridge Walk in honor of his mother who walked the Mackinac Bridge with him each year for 14 years on Labor Day. The Belleville Bridge Walk has always been a tongue-in-cheek affair since the Belleville Bridge is so small in comparison to the Mackinac Bridge.

At age 93, Mary Fassett was still driving her own car and bowled in three leagues. And, she wrote a letter to the editor of the *Independent* in support of her son during one of the recall flaps. I read through the fat folder we have on Dennis Fassett in our morgue file and it was a play-by-play account that involved all the leaders in town for or against him.

In his short time in office, Fassett started the senior transportation project, the Christmas Home Lighting Contest, and fired Kerreen Gellert who was city manager at the time. Now Kerreen Gellert Conley is mayor.

A Bohn Road resident in Sumpter Township called to say I wasn't correct when I said he didn't like the chickens in the area beyond his back yard. He said he likes chickens and he is out in the country where a few chickens are just fine.

But there are 400 to 500 chickens just 300 or 400 feet outside his bedroom window. He said the roosters crow at 3 in the morning. (He didn't tell me the numbers

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



when he complained to me about chickens originally.)

He said he has lived at that location for 14 years and it was fine until this chicken farm was set up on the landlocked parcel. A neighbor told him that when she bought her property it was in her deed that she had to allow a lane on her property to get back to that landlocked parcel.

Our reader said the person who takes care of the farm dumps wheel barrels full of feed on the ground for the chickens and he's afraid that rats will show up to eat the chicken feed.

He said this is a residential area with the only subdivision in the township nearby.

He said he tried to talk to everyone he could at the township hall, but they said there's nothing they can do. He said the ordinance officer got belligerent with him and he couldn't believe that a township employee would talk like that to a resident.

Another reader called to tell me a police officer who lives next door to her throws beer bottles into her yard and two years ago she asked him to stop, and he didn't stop. She is so irritated over this. She is afraid she would become a target by complaining to his boss.

I think some of the worst situations we hear about are neighbor problems. How awful it must be if you don't get along with your neighbor.

Wikipedia says a mangle or wringer is a mechanical laundry aid consisting of two rollers in a sturdy frame, connected by cogs and, in its home version, powered by a hand crank or electricity. While the appliance was originally used to wring water from wet laundry, today mangles are used to press or flatten sheets, tablecloths, kitchen towels, or clothing and other laundry.

The word comes from the Dutch *mangel*, from *mangelin*, "to mangle," which in turn derives from the medieval Latin *mango* or *manga* which ultimately comes from the Greek *manganon*, meaning "axis" or "engine."

Before a recent Belleville City Council meeting, there was discussion on the mangle and how something that irons things smooth could be called mangel, which brings up pictures in your head of messing things up.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said for some reason a mistake was made and the elementary schools were 3.5 hours short on this year's calendar. He said maybe someone forgot to "carry a one" or something in the calculations. He said they are making it up by starting elementary classes three minutes early and dismissing three minutes later.





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Letters

Are new band uniforms orange and black?

To the editor:

I have a question: Are the new band uniforms going to be BHS colors, orange and black? Or, Ohio State University, red and gray again?

The story I heard was as it was becoming obvious the old black with gold trim uniforms were wearing out, a donor would donate the funds for new uniforms. But there were two stipulations: First, the colors must be Ohio State's red and gray, not Belleville's orange and black. And, second, the donor was not to be revealed.

No wonder in a U of M stronghold of the time, the donor did not want to be named!

Gloria Gregory Gardner
Morenci, MI
BHS class of '64
Go, Tigers!

Editor's Note: We contacted Darlene Loyer Gerick, secretary of the board of education who is pictured in our April 15 edition with the red and grey band uniform she wore in 1985. We asked if she knew anything about this and she did an investigation on the subject. This is what she found:

"I was told once that we obtained the uniforms from Ohio State, and that is why they were scarlet and grey. I wanted to get more information before I passed that to you. I posted the question on the Facebook page: Belleville (MI) High School Marching Band. I had some responses on the post, and I had a message directly to me.

"Steve Coffelt wrote: 'My father, Richard Coffelt was BHS band director from 1948 to 1960. When he came to be director of the music department, the band had old, itchy, heavy-wool black uniforms. My father felt very sorry for his students because they were so uncomfortable and hot in warm weather. He tried several ways to convince the school board and finally was granted funds to purchase new uniforms. My father's HS alma mater colors were scarlet & gray. He added the white with red piping to the uniforms for accent. It had nothing to do with the university down South! The board approved, and that is how it came to be.'

"Steve also told me that his dad ordered the uniforms around 1959. I showed him a picture that was posted in an album from the '70s and that was not what his dad ordered. It was scarlet and grey with gold trim, also.

"A comment on my Facebook post said: 'They were supposed to be orange and gray when ordered in the '60s and they came back more red than orange. In the early '70s there was a big debate about whether or not to stick with the red and gray or switch back to orange and black. That debate ended with red and gray for

that set of uniforms (which I wore!).

"This is the timeline of the BHS Marching Tigers uniform colors that I have been able to piece together:

1948 - black
1959 - scarlet and gray
196?-1971 (or 1972) - scarlet and gray with gold trim
1971 or 1972 - scarlet and gray (shown in an *Independent* picture 2 weeks ago)
1986 or 1987 - 2005, orange and black
2005-2021 - the current black and orange
Fall 2021 - New uniforms coming.

Darlene Loyer Gerick

Cameras on the bees? Put them up

To the editor:

I read the article about the interest in putting cameras on the bee hives at the library.

I understand the idea of the hives on the roof, but, I wonder if anyone remembers the Nature Center at Lower Huron Metro Park, back in the day? My grandmother knew the gal who worked there, so she took us often. They had a hive on the inside, between glass panels, and the bees would come in from the outside and you could see their honey combs, watch them work, and every once in a while we could spot the queen. Kids, and adults, were fascinated to watch an actual hive in action. I wish they would have considered something like that.

Cameras? Put them up, let people watch. Maybe, find a way to put a small one in a hive so we can see the actual workings of the hive.

Pat McNally



April 24 – Seth Chudzinski
April 25 – Shelly Brown-Chudzinski
April 27 – Amy Hinks, Nicholas Hinks
April 29 – Gary Koeppel, Shonta Langford
April 30 – April Warner
May 1 – Leslie Ferguson
May 2 – Bill Rider, Jr., Lana Stuck
May 3 – Shari Antieau, Denise Weick, Santiago Quiros
May 5 – Pat Hubbs, Sue Bourgeois, Jerry LaVaute, David Cappelli
May 6 – Brenda Leonard, Terri Morioka

Do you have a birthday soon? Does someone you know have a birthday? Let us know and we will print the name as soon as possible. For more information, call (734) 699-9020.

Obituaries



Emily Ann Similo

EMILY ANN SIMILO

(October 7, 1980 – April 24, 2021)

Emily Ann Similo went home to be with her Lord on Saturday, April 24, 2021, after a real battle with the Covid-19 virus. She was born October 7, 1980, in East Ridge, Tennessee, to Robert and Rebecca White. Her father is the Pastor of Grace Baptist Church and has ministered at the church for 34 years and has been the senior pastor for the past 25 years.

Emily is survived by her husband Kori K. Similo of Romulus, and their two daughters, Evelyn and Madelynn Similo; his parents William and Gloria Similo of Belleville, MI; her sisters, Rachael (Rob) Christian of Belleville, MI, and Natalie (Thomas) Tucker IV of New Boston, MI, and her nephew Thomas Tucker, V. She also loved animals and her rescue dogs, Bruno and Rosie. Emily was preceded in death by her stepson Kolin K. Similo in October 2020, her grandparents Horace and Mavis Smith of Mississippi and James and Betty White of Belleville, MI.

Emily loved being with her family and having fun and being silly. God gave her the gift of mercy and touched so many lives in this community, but she always gave the glory to her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She taught Junior Church children at Grace Baptist Church for 23 years. She was only 17 when she began working in the ministry. Emily would go out of her way to help others and she loved each child entrusted to her care. She will be greatly missed!

Emily desired to work with Shannon Moore at "Photography by Shannon," but at the time Shannon didn't need anyone. Her mom told her to pray about it and she did. Within a couple of weeks, Shannon contacted her and she worked with her for over 20 years! Thank you Shannon - she loved you! The family is overwhelmed by the outpouring of love to our family and thank you sincerely for the kind comments and prayers.

Visitation was 4-8 p.m. Wednesday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Her funeral service will be 11 a.m. Thursday, April 29, 2021 at Grace Baptist Church, 164 Roys St., Belleville, MI, with visitation 10-11 a.m. Emily's father, Pastor Robert J. White will be officiating the service. Interment will be in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock, MI.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Grace Baptist Church, her passion: The Children's Ministry, at P.O. Box 40, Belleville, MI 48112.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

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Obituaries



David Monroe Benton

DAVID MONROE BENTON

David Monroe Benton died at 64 years old in his home on April 21, 2021. He was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2014 and his younger brother Gregory Benton took guardianship of him and was his primary caregiver until his death. Julie Tacia, Dennis Kalandyke, and Patricia Fry also provided exceptional love and support for David throughout his diagnosis.

He leaves behind two daughters, Emily and Jillian Benton who will cherish his memory and keep his spirit alive. David was always a kid at heart and loved being a father and uncle, sharing his kindness, sense of humor, and joy with all around him. There was always a smile and laugh when he was around, especially with his nephews Gregory Jr. and Lee. He will always live on in the hearts of those who loved him.

Spring Flea Market set at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in New Boston

A Spring Flea Market will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 19109 Craig St. in New Boston.

It will be open Thursdays and Fridays, April 29 and 30, and May 6 and 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It also will be open on Saturdays, May 1 and 8, from 9 a.m. to noon. Masks are required.

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, April 29** – Free food every Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. at Belleville Church of God Mountain Assembly, 494 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville, <https://bechurchfood.com/>.

• **Saturday, May 1** – Perennial Plant Swap, noon to 1 p.m., Belleville Area District Library parking lot. Bring your healthy, extra perennials to swap with your neighbors for something new. Coordinated by Belleville Area Garden Club.

• **Tuesday, May 3** – Forgotten Harvest Free Food Give Away runs from 2 to 4 p.m., or while supplies last, every Tuesday at Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Rd. Volunteers will load fresh groceries into the vehicle of anyone in need. You can also get food for neighbors and friends/relatives.

• **Tuesday, May 3** – Forgotten Harvest Free Food Give Away at noon every Tuesday until further notice at Romulus High School, 9650 S. Wayne Rd. Information: Virginia Williams, (734) 673-8396

• **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 6, 7, 8** – Buddy Poppies for sale along Main Street by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4434 and Polish League of American Veterans Post 167. This is a major, nationwide fund raiser for the group to earn funds for worthy causes to help the community.

• **Sunday, May 9** – Mother's Day Flower Sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fourth Street Square in Belleville. This is a fund raiser for Boy Scout Troop 793.

• **Monday, May 10** – Virtual coffee hour from noon to 1 p.m. with State Rep. Ranjeev Puri, live streamed via YouTube and social media. Let his office know about any concerns by phone at (517) 373-2575 and by email at RanjeevPuri@house.mi.gov. Rep. Puri represents the city of Belleville and Van Buren Township in Lansing.

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Congratulations to the Belleville Tigers Girls's Bowling Team for finishing as MHSAA State Runner-up.

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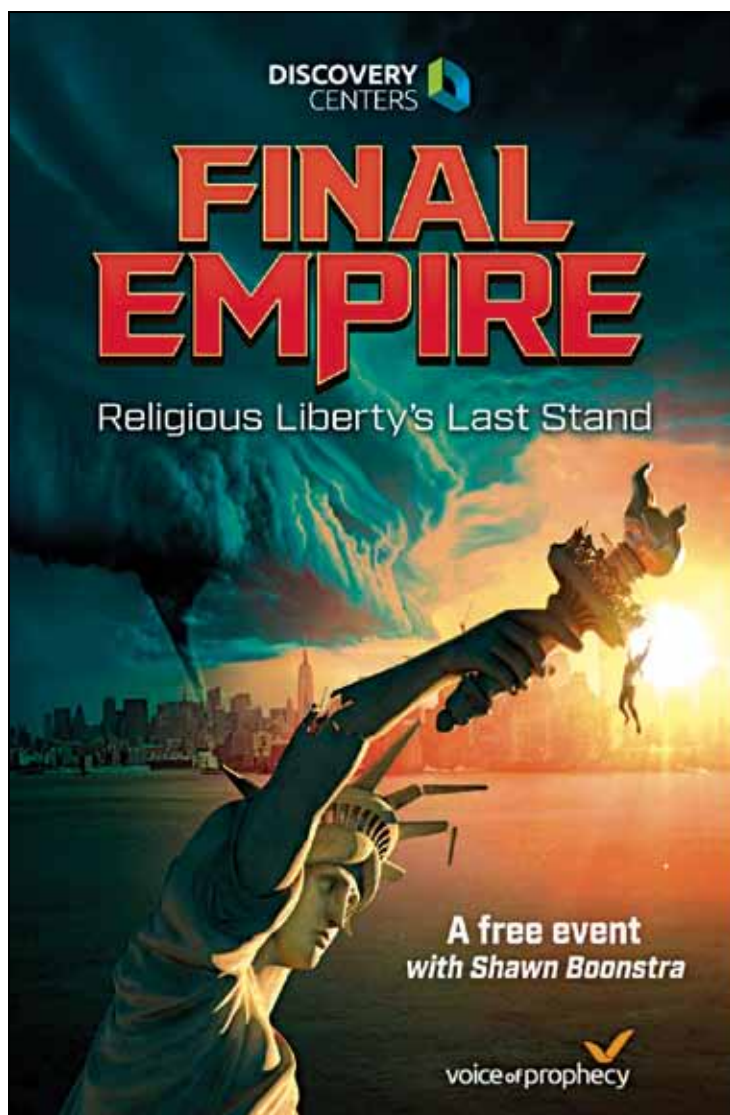
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At the April 12 meeting of the Belleville Area Women's Club, held at the Van Buren Eagles Hall, past president Mary Kowal of Canton Township received the annual Member of Achievement Award. Kowal has been involved with the local Christmas Parade, chaired Christmas Trees at the museum, and was co-chair of the club's fashion show for years. Kowal is married with two sons and one grandchild. In her spare time she is involved with hot rods and racing, a family event.

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OPENING SESSION:

7:00 PM - Tuesday, May 4th, 2021

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SESSION 2: 7:00 PM - Tuesday, May 11, 2021
Christianity Corrupted

SESSION 3: 7:00 PM - Tuesday, May 18, 2021
The Earth Opens Up

SESSION 4: 7:00 PM - Tuesday, May 25, 2021
America's Last Stand



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Over the weekend it was stated on Facebook that the shopping center where Kmart is located is being torn down. Dunham's sign announces its closing. Van Buren Township Director of Planning and Economic Development Dan Power on Monday said no permits have been applied for for any demolition or tear-down work and there are no development / planning applications in for the site at this time. The site is currently zoned C-1 – General Business and this current zoning guides what land uses would be permitted under an approved site plan or new business application should VBT receive one, he said. The site is also currently master planned for a mixed-use future land use according to the 2020 Master Plan. "We are checking for updates on the longer-term development plans, but do not have any updates at this time," Director Power said.

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From left is Stacey Dreger with Bailey, Anna Coghlan with two of Shelly dog's puppies, Pete LaFramboise with Ethal kitten, and Ashley Smith with two more of Shelly's pups. She had 10 puppies! They hold the \$7,500 ceremonial check from Petco Love.

Petco Love invests \$7,500 in lifesaving work of animal rescue

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue announced a \$7,500 grant investment from the newly named, Petco Love, to support FMAR's lifesaving work for animals in the Sumpter Township, Belleville, and surrounding areas.

Petco Love is a nonprofit leading change for pets nationally by harnessing the power of love to make communities and pet families closer, stronger, and healthier.

Since its founding in 1999 as the Petco Foundation, it has empowered organizations with nearly \$300 million invested to date in adoption and other lifesaving efforts.

And, it has helped find loving homes for more than 6.5 million pets in partnership with Petco and more than 4,000 organizations nationwide.

"Today Petco Love announces an investment in Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue and hundreds of other organizations as part of our commitment to create a future in which no pet is unnecessarily euthanized," said Susanne Kogut, president of Petco Love on April 12.

"Our local investments are only one component. This month, we will also launch the first of our national tools to empower all animal lovers to drive lifesaving change right alongside us.

"We are proud to be partners with such a wonderful organization," said Marcy LaFramboise, co-founder of FMAR.

"We would also like to thank the employees of the #1905 Westland Petco store as well as the

Petco Love who has supported the lifesaving work of Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue for over 17 years."

FMAR is a nonprofit organization working with local animal control facilities to save as many pet lives as possible in the Belleville and surrounding area with the TNR (treat and release) program, and stray dog partnership with Sumpter Township. It takes in more than 400 dogs and cats a year with the goal of making them healthy and giving them a fresh new start.

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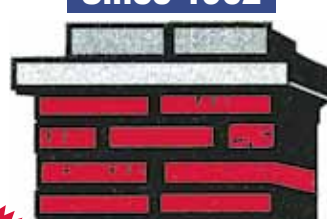
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More Letters

Wayne Co. could hire contractor, save 25%

To the editor:

The residents of Sumpter Township, as well as other townships, have less money in their pocket because of the taxes paid to Wayne County. The Wayne County Department of Public Service (W.C.D.P.S.) is supposed to use that money to maintain the roads, street signs, drainage ditches, etc., but we all know that doesn't happen at any acceptable level, and much of the maintenance is done by the citizens living there. I don't necessarily blame the workers for the problem, but the politicians and bureaucrats who are in charge.

Having worked in the township, and due to research, it became clear that Wayne

County has the wrong plan in place for its maintenance work and a few simple adjustments would solve the problem once and for all, while saving money in the process. So, I made several calls to the WCDPS to discuss the plan. After these calls, I had to alter my plan. What follows is the new plan and what may be considered my resume.

Over the past six months, I have made two calls to the director of WCDPS. She never returned my calls. In fact, she is so busy not returning calls that she had to hire an assistant to help her not return calls. The estimated combined salaries for these two employees is \$208,336 per year. In the private sector, I have always considered it as a courtesy and obligation to return customer calls, but with a little practice I could learn not to do so, and I would not return calls at a salary 25% of their combined total.

Also, last year, after the WCDPS forestry department failed to return two calls, I finally was able to obtain a phone appointment with a Wayne County supervisor and an engineer, of sorts, who was arrogant, ignorant, and rude. The phone call lasted less than 15 minutes, and I was constantly interrupted while trying to speak. The combined annual salaries of these two employees is about \$212,514. Arrogance, ignorance, and rudeness. Again, with a little practice, I could bring all three of those qualities to the job, at 25% of the pay.

By replacing the employees mentioned here and hiring a new employee at 25% of their bloated salaries would provide a savings of about \$315,638 per year. For about 25% of that amount a private contractor could be hired on a part-time,

seasonal basis to maintain the roads, signs, etc., not only in Sumpter Township, but in Van Buren and Huron townships as well; and it would be done right. Also, there is still about \$235,000 in savings which could be used in a number of ways, but I would recommend Wayne County return that money to each tax payer in those townships, along with a note of apology.

Randall Miller
Sumpter Township

Sumpter Twp.'s new program to reduce risks

To the editor:

We are excited to announce the new Sumpter Township Community Risk Reduction Program! With the implementation of this program, the police and fire departments will be able to serve everyone in the community, with a focus on our special needs residents, better.

We have created an information form for our special needs residents to provide critical information to the police and fire departments to help us better serve you in an emergency. This information will be securely stored in our computer dispatching system and only be available to emergency responders. Along with gathering critical information, we have a custom-made identification card that will assist responders in identifying your need for extra care and assistance even if you are away from home. These identification cards will be provided free of charge to special needs residents and their caregivers.

We are also providing reflective stickers to identify the special needs resident's safe area in your home. The stickers will be placed on the room's window where the special needs residents are most likely to be found. These stickers will help fire crews locate the individual faster in the event of a fire.

As part of this program, we also provide free smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors to anyone in the township that needs them. If you need assistance finding the correct location and installing them, Fire Lt. Jamie Goode will come to your house and assist you. We are also providing help in creating emergency escape plans

and training with your family on them.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule a time for Lt. Goode to come to your house and assist you with the forms, escape plans, or smoke/CO detectors, give us a call or send us an email.

Lt. Jamie Goode
Sumpter Township Fire Department
(734) 819-8041

sumptertwpcrr@gmail.com

[This was sent to the Sumpter community via a Nixle alert.]

Shooting on I-94 leads to traffic jam in Van Buren Twp., Belleville

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At about 3:23 p.m. on Friday, Van Buren Township police were called to assist Michigan State Police after a shooting on eastbound I-94 freeway between Belleville and Haggerty roads.

The MSP shut down the freeway and westbound traffic was emptied onto Belleville Road and eastbound traffic refused entry at Belleville Road, causing a huge traffic jam that spilled into the city of Belleville.

VB T police issued a Nixle alert that drivers should avoid Belleville Road between the North and South I-94 Service Drives.

MSP announced that a vehicle was shot, but not the person inside. After investigation of the freeway for evidence and a discussion with the victim, MSP drove into downtown New Boston in order to enter a house.

One witness said she saw eight MSP cars in the area of St. Stephen's School. The school had been locked down and parents advised to get to Miller School by way of Hannan Road to pick up their students.

Later, MSP advised when their team entered the home targeted, it was empty.

"Half of the American people have never read a newspaper. Half never voted for President. One hopes it is the same half."

— Gore Vidal

ATTENTION: BHS GRADUATING SENIORS...

Clement Insurance of Belleville is giving away 3 – \$500 scholarships to 3 graduating seniors this year. To apply, see Ben Kellum, the Counselor at Belleville High School.

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INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

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VAN BUREN EAGLES, 9961 BECK RD., North of McBride St., May 7-8, 9am-5pm. Lisa (734) 732-3809 05/06

EVERYTHING MUST GO! 11665 Juniper Dr, Belleville, off Quirk Road. April 29-May 2, 10am-6pm, May 6-9, 10am-6pm, & May 13-16, 10am-6pm. Men's tools, appliances, high quality items. 05/13

APRIL 30, MAY 1 & 2, 9:30am-4:00pm at 9943 Lancaster. 04/29

ESTATE SALE on 4-30 through 5-2, 9am-5pm. 47985 Bemis Road, Belleville. Paintings, mirrors, collectibles, crystal. 04/29

FOR SALE

TREAD MILL, DRILL PRESS, RUGS, Craftsman tools, pictures, Craftsman table saw, lawn mower, vacuum cleaner, chain saw, boys' & girls' bikes, (734) 325-2648, 9110 Celestine, VBT 04/29

50 BALES GRASS HAY. Local. \$125 for all. (734) 890-1088 05/13

2 GRAVE LOTS. Lot 2732 & Lot 2733 in Washtenong Memorial Park. \$1,500/ea. (cash only). Text only (734) 879-1438 or email: barrycorwin1943@gmail.com 05/13

DIEHARD SILVER BATTERY, 650, 36R-1, like new (used 2 hours) \$75. Thule hitch 2-bike rack, used once, \$85. (734) 892-8612 05/13

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The *Belleville-Area Independent* will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The *Independent's* liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the *Independent* be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

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- Henry Ford

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AUGUSTA CHARTER TOWNSHIP is seeking a part-time Cashier. Please fill out the employment application on our website: augustatownship.org DOCUMENTS; Forms & Applications; Employment Application. Drop the completed application off at Augusta Charter Township, 8021 Talladay Rd., Whitaker, MI 48190, (734) 461-6117 04/29

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LIGHT YARD WORK. Planting, weeding & spring cleanup. \$10/hr. (734) 968-0162 05/13

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

VBT board Oks shade structure, furniture at new pickleball court

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

A shade structure and two tables with attached chairs at a total cost of \$43,239.40 for the new pickleball court were approved on a 5-1 vote by the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees at its April 6 zoom meeting.

Trustee Reggie Miller cast the only no vote, explaining that was too much money to spend on a project that was thought to be complete, and then grew bigger.

The contract for the items was with Penchura LLC which has provided furniture for several other township projects, including its splash pad.

Matthew Best, director of public services, explained the pickleball park project, which is at the corner of Denton and Beckley roads at the former Harbour Club Tennis Courts.

"As our new Van Buren Pickleball Park is ready to open for the first time, Van Buren Township is looking to make this space more accessible to residents throughout the summer season," Best said in a memo to the board.

He said the project includes installation of a four-seated table set, a four-seated handicap accessible table set and a 20'x70' cantilevered shade sail.

"This will be installed to provide comfortable seating, out of the sun, for residents enjoying our newest recreational

amenity," he said.

Best said the shade sail is designed to handle Michigan winds up to 110 miles per hour and to last over 10 years.

"Spending over \$43,000 for seating and awning? What are we doing for basketball players? Nothing," said Trustee Miller. She said she suggested a kayak launch at French Landing Park and it was put off because it would cost \$48,000.

"I'm not opposed to benches. I'm opposed to \$43,000," said Trustee Miller. "Somehow this gets pushed to the front of the line and I will vote no." with

Supervisor Kevin McNamara said he agrees with Miller, saying the township needs basketball courts and they will be in the new community center building.

Miller noted that building will also have inside pickleball courts.

Supervisor McNamara said they didn't realize the effect the sun has on people.

"We can't do a \$50,000 kayak launch because we want to start up quickly," McNamara said.

Trustee Kevin McNamara said the pickleball court will be well-used. He said he unexpectedly came across a pickleball tournament on TV and it is very popular.

"I don't think spending the \$43,000 will make us a more upscale community," Miller said.

"When you start something, you should complete it," said Trustee Sherry Frazier.

"It was completed. This is new," Miller said.

"I didn't realize sun on concrete was so hot," McNamara said. "It was adequate. Now it's great."

In other business at the April 6 virtual meeting, the board:

- Approved the Stormwater Maintenance Agreement with Ashley Crossroads South LLC on the property at 41873 Ecorse Rd.;

- Approved resolutions for the abandonment of portions of the Sherman and Sugar drains on property at 39670 Ecorse Rd. to make way for the expansion of the Woodland Meadows landfill;

- Approved the Fireworks Display Permit Application by Michigan Fireworks Club for a fireworks display July 3 on a barge on Belleville Lake near the Belleville Yacht Club, 831 E. Huron River Dr. Rain date is July 4;

- Approved updating the assessing job description and title change from Assessing Coordinator to Director of Assessing, as recommended by Human

Resource Director Nicole Sumpter. The job description was last updated in 2013. Trustee Frazier said this needed change was not on the board's radar. McNamara said it was because Assessing Coordinator Linda Stevenson "doesn't have an ego... Linda is kind of an artist with assessing. She loves the numbers. There was no reason to change anything. She was happy." Frazier said assessing is the bread and butter of a township and this is a critical position. Miller said "ego" is not the point and "This was overlooked for a long time... We shouldn't overlook things like this." Stevenson has indicated she will retire and Sumpter said, "Maybe she'll change her mind." Stevenson became a Level 4 Assessor in 2019;

- Approved a contract with Fishbeck Engineering for a state-mandated Risk & Resiliency Study at a cost not to exceed \$25,800;

- Approved a five-year contract to the existing professional services agreement with Hydro Corp, Inc. for enforcement of the SDWA mandated cross connection control program relating to commercial and residential backflow prevention devices for a total cost of \$249,525;

- Approved a three-year contract with Advanced Underground Inspection, LCC for sanitary mains camera inspection for a

total bid amount of \$213,521.35;

- Approved a special land use request by Clover Communities Van Buren LLC to construct a three-story, 128-unit senior housing development at 8741 Belleville Road between Robson and Tyler roads. The project now will go back to the planning commission for final site plan approval. Beth Ernat of Clover said the estimated rent will be \$1,200 a month. She thinks they are six months from breaking ground and then it will take 14 months for construction;

- Approved the first reading of ordinance amendments to lot coverage and outdoor industrial storage area related to unenclosed roofed structures. The idea for this change came as a request from Neapco;

- Was informed Joan Franzoi has resigned from the planning commission, Water and Sewer Director James Taylor has resigned as of Aug. 13, and Assessing Coordinator Linda Stevenson has announced she is retiring, but has not given a date; and

- Heard McNamara announce that Kathy Kline of Waste Management wants to rescue all the frogs in the former Woodland's golf course in the new, expanded landfill site and is chasing after them with a butterfly net. He said other WM employees are helping her to relocate the frogs and toads before the landfill expansion.

Canton Township cancels 2021 Liberty Fest for June 17-19

In response to the latest guidelines from State of Michigan public health officials and in an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, Canton Township is officially canceling its 2021 Liberty Fest for the second year in a row due to the coronavirus pandemic.

After monitoring ongoing COVID-19 concerns, and with the uncertainty that the next few months may present, the official decision has been made out of an abundance of caution to cancel Canton's annual Liberty Fest, which was previously scheduled to be held June 17-19, 2021.

"This final decision had to be made due to the continuously evolving health and safety concerns in our community," said Greg Hohenberger, Canton leisure services director. "Rest assured that we are making plans in the true Canton community spirit to host an alternate community celebration as soon as conditions will allow that may include a fireworks display, hopefully later this fall."

Canton Township staff is already at work planning two free summer concert series that will enable the community to safely come together to enjoy music at the Heritage Park Amphitheater, located

behind the Canton Administration Building at 1150 S. Canton Center Road in Canton, MI. The Thursday Night LIVE! Concert Series kicks off Thursday, June 17, and will continue every Thursday through Aug. 19 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., with performances scheduled from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Tuesdays Are Terrific at lunchtime starts July 13. This youth variety series continues July 20 and 27 and Aug. 3 and 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with concerts that are geared toward preschool and elementary-age audiences. Both of these free concert series are sponsored by Community Financial Credit Union. Find performer lineup details at www.cantonfun.org.

Established in 1991, Canton Liberty Fest typically welcomes thousands of individuals each summer, who participate in Canton's largest community celebration over this three-day festival. Popular activities include carnival rides and midway games, two stages with live entertainment, car and truck show, marketplace, festival food, a fireworks display, and more.

For the latest Liberty Fest or Canton summer event information, visit www.cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

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Garden Fantasy Greenhouse on Tyler Road just east of Morton Taylor is open for the season, featuring flowers, hanging baskets, vegetables, perennials, flats, seeds, potted plants, bagged soil, and just as important -- expert advice. Owners Walt and Joyce Rochowiak are offering curbside pickup, too, if you like as social distancing is in place. Mother's Day is coming up on May 9, and Garden Fantasy is giving away a free hanging basket with the purchase of two baskets the weekend of May 6-9 only. They're open Monday through Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (734) 697-1765. See their ad in today's paper.

On the south side, Donald Zywicki and family of Zywicki Greenhouses, Inc. is celebrating their 78th year of growing flowers and vegetables, including bedding plants, baskets, window boxes, rose bushes, flats, and over 48 varieties of tomato plants. They're open seven days a week at 8 a.m. with social distancing guidelines in place. See their ad in today's paper and visit www.zywickigreenhouse.com. Call (734) 256-1923. They're located at 50705 Willow Road just east of Rawsonville Road.

Legacy Five, a southern gospel group and a local favorite, will be performing a concert on Saturday, May 15, at 6 p.m. at Bethany Bible Church on E. Huron River Drive in Belleville. Doors open at 6 p.m. and tickets are \$14 for general admission, and \$7 for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased by phone at (734) 697-7456 or in person at the church during office hours, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

GMS Sealcoating of Belleville and owner Grant Memering use only environmentally safe products for his sealcoating, rubberized crack-filling, striping, cement work, and general asphalt paving. GMS is licensed and insured and will provide free estimates for commercial and residential

customers. See their ad in today's paper and call (734) 775-8341.

The Huron Sportsman's Association is holding a first-ever Drive-thru Chicken Dinner this Saturday, May 1, starting at 4 p.m. until all the food is gone. The cost is \$12.50 per dinner, which includes four pieces of chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable, cole slaw, and a slice of pie for dessert. The club is located at 19835 Sterling St. in New Boston.

Thank you to Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue of Sumpter Township for renewing their business card ad with us for another year. FMAR, a no-kill shelter, is located on Arkona Road and offers dog and cat adoptions at a very good price. It is open to the public by appointment only at this time but is looking to schedule more adoption events as restrictions get relaxed and lifted. FMAR has scheduled what will be its 12th-annual FMAR Golf Outing on Saturday, June 26, beginning at 9 a.m. at Green Oaks Golf Course in Ypsilanti. The cost is \$75 per golfer and \$300 per foursome. The proceeds go towards the upkeep of running the no-kill shelter. The event is a best-ball scramble and shotgun start, based on 25 teams. The ticket also includes hot dogs and chips at the turn and a dinner to follow. For more info and to sign up, call Heather at (734) 444-8445 or Dawn at (734) 904-9060. Be sure to ask about sponsorships available. To learn more about the shelter and its dogs and cats waiting for their forever homes visit www.fmar1.org. Be sure to check out their pet of the week in today's paper.

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, May 3 – Van Buren Township work/study session at 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 4 – Van Buren Township regular meeting at 6 p.m.
- Monday, May 10 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 11 – Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority, 2 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Recreation Committee, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop and regular meeting, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.

Van Buren Public Schools Public Notice

VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Van Buren Public Schools will receive sealed bid proposals until **2:00 p.m. on May 14, 2021**, for **Transition Work Program Curriculum**. Bids will be opened and publicly read aloud immediately following the deadline for submission. Van Buren Public Schools will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified for the bid submission.

Bid documents may be viewed and downloaded at:

<https://5il.co/rysv>

Any questions, contact Sara Cortese at scortese@vanburenschools.net or Karen Johnston at karenjohnston@vanburenschools.net.

Publish: April 29, 2021

For Classified Advertising, Display Advertising or News Tips
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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

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Water Workers

Visit: www.vanburen-mi.org



**R.E.A.L. Summer Jobs Accepting Applications Starting
June 1, 2021**
Crew Managers (3)
**Crew Leaders (3) (Must have a minimum of 2 years in the
program to apply)**
Community Ambassadors (9)
Groundskeepers (1)
**Visit www.vanburenreal.com for information starting
May 31, 2021**

Publish: April 29, 2021; May 6, 2021

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Business & Corporation Taxes Also Completed

7th Day Adventist Church offers four sessions on America

Following a tumultuous election year, as millions of Americans consider the future of the United States, some are taking a step back to consider the nation's origins. How did the idea of the United States germinate? What forces were at play at the beginning?

What role did religion *really* have in the formation of the nation? And what can history teach us as we consider the decisions America faces today?

Debuting on Tuesday, May 4 at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Seventh-day Adventist Church, in a four-part documentary-style series, "Final Empire" will explore these questions in detail, comparing the prophecies of the Bible with the evidence of history. In addition, *Final Empire* will explore what Bible prophecy says about the challenges the United States faces today.

This series, hosted by Voice of Prophecy

Speaker/Director Shawn Boonstra, will compare history with the Bible to address questions such as:

- What was the real reason Columbus sailed west?
- What role did the fall of Constantinople have in the formation of the United States?
- Was the United States really founded as a Christian nation?
- What steps can Americans take today to preserve their religious liberties?

Following each documentary presentation, local moderator Pastor Nathaniel Oregon will lead a discussion on the session's topic.

Admission is free, and all attendees will receive a copy of Boonstra's brand-new book, "Final Empire."

"We're going to talk about America, what it was supposed to be, and what's happening in the nation today," Boonstra

said. "Ultimately, during 'Final Empire,' we want to give people the opportunity to learn how to study Bible prophecy and find answers for themselves."

Topics will include: "Republic Rising," "Christianity Corrupted," "The Earth Opens Up," and "America's Last Stand." *Final Empire* begins Tuesday, May

4, at 7 p.m. in the Belleville Seventh-day Adventist Church located at 89 S. Edgemont St. in Belleville. It will continue May 11, 18, and 25. You may register to attend onsite during this free event by calling (734) 294-8788 or by visiting www.FinalEmpire.com.



Don Wisner of Van Buren Township shares this April 21 picture of the work that has begun at the corner of Hannan and South I-94 Service Drive/Northline Road. The dangerous intersection is being changed from a boulevard crossing to a single road crossing with a full traffic signal. This a cooperative project of Wayne County and the City of Romulus.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

NOTICE OF ADOPTION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN COUNTY OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN ORDINANCE NO. 04-06-21 (1)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE 5-2-17(2) AS AMENDED OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN TO ALLOW LIMITED ADDITIONAL LOT COVERAGE BEYOND DISTRICT LOT COVERAGE LIMITS IN THE INDUSTRIAL ZONING DISTRICTS FOR PURPOSES OF ALLOWING UNENCLOSED ROOFED STRUCTURES OVER ACCESSORY OUTDOOR INDUSTRIAL STORAGE AREAS. THE AMENDMENTS WILL INCLUDE UPDATES TO SECTIONS 2.102 – DEFINITIONS, 4.103 – FOOTNOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF REGULATIONS, AND 5.101 – ACCESSORY OUTDOOR INDUSTRIAL STORAGE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ORDAINS:

SECTION 1- ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Pursuant to this Ordinance, the following sections of the Charter Township of Van Buren Zoning Ordinance shall be amended in accordance with the below text upon the effective date of this Amendment:

Article 2. Definitions.

Section 2.102. Specific Terms:

(121) LOT COVERAGE: The part of a lot occupied by buildings or roofed structures including accessory buildings or structures. For industrially zoned parcels located in the M-1, M-2 and M-T zoning districts, lot coverage shall not include unenclosed roofed structures that provide shelter over approved outdoor storage areas located over existing paved surfaces as noted in Section 4.102, footnote BB.

Article 4. Schedule of Regulations, Section 4.102. Add footnote

(BB) Unenclosed covered roof structures that are entirely within and used to provide cover over approved outdoor storage areas located on existing impervious surface areas shall not exceed 10% of total lot area up to a maximum of 20,000 square feet. This coverage is in addition to any such coverage possible within the allowable 35% lot coverage.

Article 5. Development Standards for Specific Uses.

Section 5.101. Accessory Outdoor Industrial Storage.

(I) Outdoor storage areas shall be located on paved impervious surfaces and shall have adequate storm water management systems. Such approved outdoor storage areas may be provided with an unenclosed roof structure covering up to a maximum of 10% of the total lot area, up to a maximum of 20,000 square feet, beyond the zoning district's maximum lot coverage per Section 4.102 of the Zoning Ordinance.

SECTION 2 - SEVERABILITY

Should any provision or part of this Ordinance be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the same shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the balance of this Ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3 - REPEALER

All other provisions of the Zoning Ordinance, or Ordinances or parts of Ordinances, in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 4- SAVINGS CLAUSE

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding pending in any court or any rights acquired or any liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under the Zoning Ordinance, or any act or Ordinance hereby repealed as cited in Section 3 of this Ordinance; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired, or affected by this Ordinance.

SECTION 5 - EFFECTIVE DATE

The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby ordered to take effect seven (7) days after publication of the notice of adoption in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township. This Ordinance shall be immediately recorded by the Township Clerk in the Township Ordinance Book as soon as it is adopted, which record shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Supervisor and Clerk and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township within fifteen (15) days of passage. A copy of this Ordinance may be purchased or inspected at the Clerk's Office, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 during normal business hours.

SECTION 6 - ADOPTION

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren at a meeting duly called and held on the 20th day of April 2021, and ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by law.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance,

Leon Wright, Clerk

Kevin McNamara, Supervisor

Adopted: April 20, 2021
Published: April 29, 2021
Effective: April 29, 2021

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 231 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, April 18:

0024 – 911 welfare check, Castell Blvd.
0404 – assist other dept., Michigan Ave.
0511 – intrusion alarm, W. Huron River Dr.
0612 – intrusion alarm, W. Huron River Dr.
1031 – intrusion alarm, Timberview Ct.
1046 – noise complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1124 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Manor
1224 – property check, Dellor St.
1237 – 911 welfare check, Hannan Rd.
1245 – property damage accident, Belleville/I-94
1336 – assist other dept., Rawsonville Rd./W. Huron River Dr.

1626 – assist other dept., W. I-94/Belleville Rd.
1628 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.

1636 – assist other dept., E. Huron River Dr.
1648 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1652 – intrusion alarm, Samuel Barton Dr.
1654 – threat, Lighthouse Dr.
1706 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1742 – suspicious person/vehicle, Barnwell Dr.
1902 – property damage accident, N. I-275/Tyler
2000 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.
2034 – assist citizen, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.
2305 – civil matter, Denton Rd.
2358 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service

Monday, April 19:

0057 – intrusion alarm, W. Huron River Dr.
0155 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.
0900 – assist other dept., Parkwood Dr.
0900 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd./Huron River Dr.

0918 – property damage accident, WB I-94/Haggerty

0934 – road hazard, N. I-94 Service Dr./Quirk Rd.
0940 – larceny, Ecorse Rd.
1010 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
1008 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.

1044 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1251 – civil matter, Denton Rd.
1255 – motorist assist, S. I-94 Service Dr./Quirk
1259 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.

1320 – road hazard, N. I-94 Service Dr./Beck Rd.
1342 – parking complaint, Belleville Rd.
1351 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd.

1414 – assist fire dept., Haggerty Rd.
1419 – threat, McBride
1431 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1533 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1617 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ironwood Dr.
1730 – welfare check, Hoeft Rd.

1828 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
1905 – assist citizen, Belleville Rd.
1937 – fraud, Belleville Rd.

1939 – traffic offense, E. I-94/Belleville Rd.
1942 – mental subject, Belleville Rd.
2159 – suicidal person, Jackson St.

2239 – assist other dept., Belle Pointe Dr.

Tuesday, April 20:

0032 – assist other dept., Hoeft Rd.
0109 – 911 welfare check, Haggerty Rd./Old Haggerty Rd.

0315 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
0554 – parking complaint, Kent Ln./Fairfield Dr.
0622 – unauthorized driving away of auto, W. Archwood Dr.

1038 – civil matter, Colonial Rd.
1057 – assist fire dept., Kirkridge Park Dr.
1157 – welfare check, State St.

1209 – juvenile complaint, McBride Ave.
1233 – juvenile complaint, McBride Ave.
1242 – intrusion alarm, Laguna Dr.

1358 – intrusion alarm, Beck Rd.
1421 – welfare check, Landmark
1433 – malicious destruction of property, Lighthouse Dr.

1442 – property damage accident, Denton Rd. / Michigan Ave.

1453 – shooting, Ecorse/I-275
1523 – follow up by officer, Nottingham
1531 – fraud, Lake Pointe Pass
1603 – civil matter, Colonia Rd.

1649 – animal complaint, Martinsville Rd.

1652 – civil matter, S. Bellridge Dr.
1901 – family trouble, Landmark
2027 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

2047 – assist other dept., Westlake Cir.
2124 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd.

2142 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2205 – noise complaint, S. Bellridge Dr.
2236 – road hazard, Haggerty Rd./Savage Rd.

Wednesday, April 21:

0020 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
0640 – hospice death, Bak Rd.
0724 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.

0851 – ordinance violation, Lighthouse Dr.
0854 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.
0902 – background investigation, Tyler Rd.

0906 – ordinance violation, Lighthouse Dr.
1017 – assist other dept., Kirkridge Park Dr.
1022 – juvenile complaint, McBride Ave.

1025 – private property impound, Van Born
1103 – juvenile complaint, McBride Ave.
1114 – civil matter, Colonial Rd.

1242 – private property impound, Denton Rd.
1312 – civil matter, Lighthouse Dr.
1330 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville

1356 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1425 – domestic, Colonial Rd.
1426 – assist other dept., Canyon Dr.

1454 – noise complaint, Hardwood Dr.
1515 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1618 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

1723 – 911 welfare check, Stratford Dr.
1812 – threat, N. Woodbury Dr.
1908 – animal complaint, Brookside Dr.

1945 – harassment call, Oak Blvd.
2003 – disorderly, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2015 – malicious destruction of property, E. Archwood Dr.

2231 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
2309 – noise complaint, Greenwood Dr. / Thornwood Dr.

Thursday, April 22:

0244 – road hazard, Tyler Rd./Hannan Rd.
0343 – welfare check, Preswick Ct.
0443 – suicidal person, Maple Dr.

0601 – property damage accident, Lancaster Dr.
0717 – family trouble, Maple Dr.
1017 – domestic, Parkwood Dr.

1117 – private property impound, Tyler Rd.
1128 – vehicle lockout, Village Center Dr.
1356 – harassment call, S. Woodbury Dr.

1452 – suspicious person/vehicle, Vine St.
1459 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. Purple Sage Ct.
1520 – suspicious person/vehicle, Bemis Rd.

1531 – mental subject, Meadows Cir.
1546 – juvenile complaint, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1609 – assault & battery, Lake Pointe Pass

1854 – welfare check, Preswick Ct.
1930 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Haggerty
2027 – threat, N. I-94 Service Dr.

2102 – larceny, Parkwood Dr.
Friday, April 23:

0012 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lighthouse Dr.
0013 – suicidal person, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0033 – shooting, Belleville Rd.

0131 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0506 – intrusion alarm, Peninsular Dr.
0622 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.

0721 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0719 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

0753 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
0848 – property damage accident, W. I-94 / Belleville Rd.

0927 – family trouble, Denton Rd.
1046 – threat, Rawsonville Rd.
1142 – assist other dept., Haggerty Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.

1156 – 911 welfare check, Van Born
1209 – 911 welfare check, Westlake Cir.
1438 – property damage accident, Belleville

1449 – intrusion alarm, Yost
1523 – assist other dept., Haggerty/I-94
1550 – property damage accident, Rawsonville

1627 – civil matter, S. Bellridge Dr.
1729 – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.
1729 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Hannan

1812 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hickory Woods
2012 – welfare check, Richard Run Dr.
2047 – suspicious activity report, Tyler/Beck

2047 – road hazard, Belleville Rd.

2239 – welfare check, Westlake Cir.

Saturday, April 24:

0115 – private property/property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.

0305 – assist fire dept., N. I-94 Service Dr.
0338 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0513 – assist other dept., Henry St.

1142 – fraud, Outer Dr.
1201 – trespassing, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1204 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.

1221 – neighbor trouble, Lake Pointe Pass
1317 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1538 – welfare check, Colonial Rd.

1700 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1747 – 911 welfare check, Quirk Rd.
1814 – domestic, Coolidge St.

1822 – runaway, Quirk Rd.
1822 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville Rd.

1835 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Tyler Rd./Belleville Rd.
1906 – assist fire dept., W. Huron River Dr.

1955 – intrusion alarm, Stonebridge Dr.
2005 – suspicious person/vehicle, Robson Rd.
2106 – domestic, Park Estates Dr.

2142 – domestic, N. Ponderosa Trl.
2242 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Archwood

Also on this week's log are 31 traffic stops, two of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 18:

0024 – harassment call, Robbe St.
0146 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.
0151 – intrusion alarm, Owen St.

0841 – assist other dept., Santa Clara St.
1015 – intrusion alarm, Fourth St.
1518 – suspicious person/vehicle, Edison Ave.

1640 – assist other dept., E. Huron River Dr.
2027 – assist citizen, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd.
2028 – intrusion alarm, High St.

2340 – traffic stop, N. Liberty St./Main St.

Monday, April 19:

0002 – traffic stop, E. Wabash Ave./South St.
0027 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
0130 – traffic stop, Main St.

0451 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.
0503 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.
0611 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.

0901 – juvenile complaint, Loza Ln.
1154 – suspicious person/vehicle, Main St.
1411 – traffic stop, Main St.

1707 – 911 welfare check, Church St.
1852 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.

Tuesday, April 20:

0615 – assist fire dept., Victorian Ln.
0907 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Industrial Park Dr
0954 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Madelon

1100 – traffic stop, Main St./E. Huron River Dr.
1112 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Madelon
1301 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Liberty St./ E. Huron River Dr.

2214 – intrusion alarm, Main St.

Wednesday, April 21:

0011 – suspicious person/vehicle, Menlo Park Dr.
0112 – traffic stop, S. Biggs Ave./E. Huron River
1118 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./N. Liberty

2347 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.

Thursday, April 22:

0042 – traffic stop, Main St.
0224 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Thornhill Ct.
0434 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.

0936 – traffic stop, W. Columbia Ave.
1030 – traffic stop, E. Columbia Ave./S. Liberty
1219 – traffic stop, N. Edgemont Ave./E. Huron River Dr.

2127 – assist fire dept., Main St.
2138 – warrant arrest, Tyler
2205 – disorderly, E. Huron River Dr.

Friday, April 23:

0114 – intrusion alarm, E. Huron River Dr.
1229 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hull Rd.
1417 – family trouble, Henry St.

2004 – traffic offense, W. Columbia Ave.
2209 – traffic stop, Main St./Roys St.
2221 – traffic stop, Main St.

2231 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Industrial Park

Saturday, April 24:

0029 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.
0511 – domestic, Henry St.
1308 – traffic stop, Madelon St./E. Huron River Dr

1307 – disorderly, N. Aberdeen Ct.
2054 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
2156 – warrant arrest, Tyler Rd.

There were 26 traffic stops on this week's log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 18:

0007 – family trouble, 46000 bl. Weimer Dr.
0450 – fire dept. assist, Nevada St.
0932 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

1024 – citizen assist, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1036 – fire dept. assist, Nevada St.
1303 – misc. detail, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1329 – welfare check, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1433 – traffic stop, Rawsonville Rd./Bemis Rd.
1437 – animal complaint, Willis Rd./Sherwood

1456 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Prince Rd.
1543 – misc. detail, out of township
1613 – traffic complaint, Martinsville Rd./Willis

1746 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.
1905 – misc. detail, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1929 – welfare check, Country Club Blvd.

1949 – juvenile complaint, Carriage Ln.
2324 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
2334 – death investigation, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.

Monday, April 19:

0710 – traffic stop, 7400 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
0726 – traffic stop, Oakville Waltz/Carleton West
1016 – animal complaint, 41000 bl. Willis Rd.

1032 – 911 hang up, 23000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
1157 – assist other agency, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.
1349 – follow-up investigation, 18000 bl. Westcott

1404 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1533 – suspicious circumstances, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1551 – follow-up investigation, Edgewood Dr.
1554 – follow-up investigation, 17000 bl. Odyssey
1731 – suspicious circumstances, Rustic Ln.

1742 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Karr Rd.
1817 – warrant arrest, Willow Rd./Karr Rd.
2032 – family trouble, Timberlane Dr.

2349 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Sherwood Rd.

Tuesday, April 20:

0204 – misc. detail, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0211 – alarm, Rustic Ln.
0802 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0849 – follow-up investigation, 20000 bl. Sumpter
0856 – follow-up investigation, 21000 bl. Sumpter
1005 – 911 hang up, 21000 Haggerty Rd.

1532 – civil matter, 28000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1625 – suspicious circumstances, 42000 bl. Bemis
1657 – alarm, 40000 bl. Wear Rd.

1959 – misc. detail, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2057 – traffic complaint, 22000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2124 – down wires, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

2206 – down wires, 47000 bl. Harris Rd.
2220 – down wires, 43000 bl. Willis Rd.
2225 – down wires, Mulberry Dr.

2231 – down wires, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2235 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
2242 – down wires, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

2242 – down wires, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
2300 – down wires, Rustic Ln.
2332 – down wires, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.

2339 – down wires, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

Wednesday, April 21:

0144 – down wires, Second St.
0338 – citizen assist, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
0358 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.

0840 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
1109 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster Ave.
1222 – traffic stop, Willow Rd./Sumpter Rd.

1432 – welfare check, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
2033 – misc. detail, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2226 – shots fired, 19000 bl. Elwell Rd.

2300 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

Thursday, April 22:

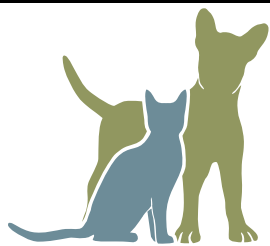
1130 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1344 – welfare check, Utah St.
1653 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

1818 – traffic stop, Willow Rd./Sumpter Rd.
1832 – traffic stop, Sumpter Rd./Willow Rd.
1938 – traffic stop, Rustic Ln./Brookview Dr.

(Continued on page 19)

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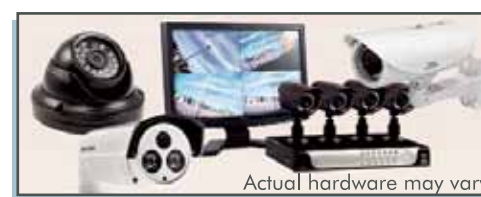
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Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued on page 18)

2239 – mental health call, California St.
2240 – misc. detail, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Friday, April 23:

0128 – 911 hang up, Washington St.
1034 – traffic stop, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.
1119 – alarm, 43000 bl. Willis Ct.
1124 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
1424 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1614 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.
1622 – 911 hang up, 42000 bl. Wear Rd.
1704 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Claxton Dr.
1726 – civil matter, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
1914 – welfare check, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
2000 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Karr Rd.
2042 – misc. detail, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2324 – traffic stop, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Saturday, April 24:

0053 – fire dept. assist, 39000 bl. Wear Rd.
0726 – traffic stop, Karr Rd./Oakville Waltz
1343 – civil matter, Country Club Blvd.
1626 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1830 – welfare check, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
2012 – misc. detail, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2050 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sherwood

Also on this week's log are 64 patrol checks. There were nine traffic stops this week.

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Correction: Stabbing actually was at mobile home in Park Estates

On the front page of the April 8 edition of the *Independent*, it was stated the stabbing that took place on July 31, 2020 occurred at a mobile home in Timberlands mobile home park in Van Buren Township.

Testimony in the case on April 8 showed that the stabbing actually took place in Park Estates and VBT police initially met the complaining witness at the entrance to Timberlands mobile home park, a quarter of a mile away from the scene of the crime.

We regret the error.

Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

Correction:

Welcome,

Harrison Theodore Albrecht

Harrison Theodore Albrecht was born on Feb. 24, 2021 at 7:46 a.m. weighing 9 pounds, 3 ounces and measuring 21.75 inches long. Parents are Scott and Alysha Albrecht of Ypsilanti. Proud grandparents are Richard and Kathy Albrecht and Glenn and Sheryl Schlundt-Bodien. Proud great-grandparents are Thomas and Beverly Rekeny, Theodora and the late Neil Kleisma, William "Poppy" and the late Mariana Lutz, and Marvin and Margaret Albrecht.

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00000 SUMPTER 243X687 3.63 AC \$40,000

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WAYNE RD COM ZONE 1.48 AC \$149,000

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25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC \$20,000

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